WATERCRAFT STEERING ASSIST SYSTEM

Abstract of the Disclosure

A steering assist system for a watercraft including a force detection assembly adapted to detect a force further applied to an operator steering control of the watercraft after the steering control is turned to a maximum turning position. The steering assist system also includes a controller configured to increase a steering force produced by the watercraft in response to an output of the force detection assembly. In one arrangement, the steering assist system increases an output of a propulsion system of the watercraft in proportion to an output of the force detection assembly. In another arrangement, the steering assist system moves a steering force producing member, such as a deflector or rudder, for example, in response to an output of the force detection assembly in addition to, or alternative to, increasing an output of the propulsion system.

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